clear: Noes have it, the rule is not suspended, the rule is not suspended.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: I am a Member. I am entitled to move the Motion. I have moved the Motion. I am entitled to speak in support of my Motion. (*Interruptions*)

ठाकुर जगत पाल सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश) क्या यह डेमोक्रेसी है। यह चेयरमैन तक दल बदला है उनको सपोर्ट कर रहे है। (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 163.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Fire in Hazira Gas Complex

*163 SHRI KAPIL VERMA:†
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA:†

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on the Hazira Gas Processing Complex has come to a halt as a result of a fire incident on July 23, 1988;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been ordered in this regard; if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) what is the quantum of loss suffered due to closure of the Complex; and

(e) what steps are being taken to recommission the Complex and by when it is likely to be recommissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (e) On 23rd July 1988 a fire occurred at the Hazira Gas Processing Complex of ONGC. The fire was brought under control in about half an hour. The gas supply to HBJ Pipeline and KRIBHCO Fertilizer Plant has not been affected. However, the LPG Plant is closed till the damaged cable and pipelines are repaired. ONGC have ordered an inquiry in the matter. The repair work is expected to be completed by the 2nd week of August. Efforts would be made to ensure that the annual target for LPG production is fully met.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kapil Verma.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 164.

(*Interruptions*)

*164. [*For answer* vide *Col.* 30 infra.]

Setting up a plant for the manufacture of Optic Fibre in Punjab

*165. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:†
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab Government's proposal for the setting up of a high-tech Rs. 32 crore plant to manufacture optic fibre and optical fibre communication cables systems in technical and financial collaboration with the STC of U.K. has been stalled in the Ministry for long;

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and the reasons for the delay in arriving at a decision thereon; and

(c) whether there are alternative proposals under consideration of Govenment; if so, what are the details thereof?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Mahendra Prasad.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) The Punjab State Electronic Development and Production Corporation Ltd. had submitted an application dated 20th August, 1987 for industrial licence and approval of foreign collaboration for the manufacture of optical fibre communication systems in technical and financial collaboration with STC of UK. The application was rejected in December 1987 on the ground that adequate capacity had already been approved for the manufacture of this item. The company's representation against this decision has also been considered and rejected by the Government.

...(*Interruption*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I may say, with all humility, that your behaviour is not at all according to parliamentary practice. Please go back to your seats. When the discussion comes, kindly discuss it. ...(*Interruptions*) ...Kindly hear me. You have made your protest. Now please go back to your seats and let the House go on according to the regular parliamentary practice. Let it go on. I have absolutely no right to overrule the opinion of the House. Please go back to your seats. If you do not go ...(*Interruptions*)... Question No. 166.

Safety Audit in Oil Installations

*166. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:†
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a safety audit has been ordered in oil installations in the country particularly in on-shore and off-shore drilling rigs against the backdrop of July, 7 oil disaster in England;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what are the objectives of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) and (b) Safety audits are regularly conducted on onshore/offshore rigs/installations. These have, however further been re-inforced in view of the oil fire disaster in the North Sea, by chalking out a special action plan for Bombay Offshore. As a result, 17 Safety Check Teams consisting of General Managers/Dy. General managers and eight Task Force Teams of senior officers have been deployed to carry out a time bound safety audit/inspection programme and recommend such further safety measures as may be necessary.

For onshore rigs/installations, a special safety audit/inspection has been arranged by ONGC. OIL have also been instructed to undertake similar steps.

(c) The objectives include:

To correct any short-comings in safety measures.

To emphasise safety awareness.

To review the training in safety measures of newly recruited employees.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 167 ... (*Interruptions*)... Q. No. 168... (*Interruptions*) ... Q. No. 169 ... (*Inter-*

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Veena Verma.